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**Civilian Complaint Review Board Presents Dinkins with Pioneer Award**

*Honor Lauds Former Mayor Who Established Independent Police Oversight Agency 25 Years Ago*

**New York, NY** – The New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), the nation’s largest independent police oversight entity, today honored former Mayor David N. Dinkins with its inaugural Pioneer Award. The award recognizes Mayor Dinkins for his leadership in establishing the CCRB as an entity independent from the New York City Police Department (NYPD).

“Looking back, creating an independent Civilian Complaint Review Board is among the contributions I’m most proud of as Mayor,” said **Mayor David N. Dinkins**. “It has been a gift seeing its work over the last 25 years as the CCRB has helped right injustices and, ultimately, instill faith in policing. I am honored to be recognized today, and I have in my heart all the individuals, community members, and advocates who fought alongside our City to make this possible.”

The Agency honored Dinkins during a ceremony at City Hall, where present and former elected officials, the Police Commissioner, CCRB Board members and staff, other City and community leaders, and police reform advocates gathered to recognize the former mayor and the work of the police oversight entity.

Created by Dinkins and the City Council in 1993, the CCRB’s staff conducts investigations, mediations, and prosecutions in cases of alleged police misconduct. The August 1988 Tompkins Square Park riot, during which NYPD officers were recorded using excessive force against civilians, galvanized support for an all-civilian review board. Prior to the current CCRB’s creation, the NYPD’s internal review board was the sole entity in New York City designated to receive civilian complaints against police.

The independent all-civilian CCRB created under Dinkins was granted subpoena power and authorized to recommend discipline in cases that the Board substantiated. Today, its 200-member staff includes an Administrative Prosecution Unit, which was established in 2012 through a

Memorandum of Understanding with the NYPD and remains the only entity in the nation authorized to administratively prosecute officers for the most serious substantiated cases of police misconduct.

“For the past 25 years, Civilian Complaint Review Board has played an integral role in building trust between our officers and the communities they serve, and helping to drive crime down to record lows,” said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**. “We would not have been able to achieve this feat without the visionary leadership of Mayor Dinkins. On behalf of all New Yorkers, I would like to thank him for creating the CCRB and building the foundation to make New York the safest big city in America.”

“Over the last 25 years, the Civilian Complaint Review Board has played a unique, essential role in the life of New York City, and we all owe a debt of gratitude to Mayor Dinkins for his political courage and foresight as a leader,” said **Fred Davie, chair of the Civilian Complaint Review Board**. “Out of his action in 1993 has grown an independent Agency that works tirelessly day in and day out to hold the NYPD accountable and improve police-community relations.”

“It’s an honor to stand here as a Council Member to honor a man who I admired as an elementary school student,” said **Council Member Donovan Richards, chair of the Committee on Public Safety**. “Mayor Dinkins changed the landscape of politics and policing in New York City. When he proposed the CCRB, there were those who said the City would go to hell, but as we look back, we can proudly say New York City is now safer than it’s ever been. And that’s largely because of Mayor Dinkins’s foresight to know that to create a safer city, we must hold those who are charged with enforcing the law to the highest standards. I’d like to thank Mayor Dinkins for his contributions to this City and the CCRB for their dedication to accountability.”

Since the CCRB was established as an independent agency 25 years ago, the Civilian Complaint Review Board has:

- Disciplined 4,244 members of the NYPD for misconduct
- Conducted 2,447 mediations between civilians and members of the NYPD
- Prosecuted 699 members of the NYPD for the most egregious allegations of misconduct

Furthermore, under the de Blasio administration, the CCRB has increased the scope and scale of its public education efforts to raise awareness of the Agency’s mission of holding the NYPD accountable and improving police-community relations. Additional funding beginning in Fiscal 2016 was instrumental to the Agency’s ability to increase its community outreach efforts. Its Outreach and Intergovernmental Affairs Unit, which by the end of 2017 had expanded to six staffers from one, conducts hundreds of presentations at schools, public libraries, tenant associations, and other locations in all five boroughs annually.

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*The New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) is the largest police oversight entity in the nation and is empowered to investigate, mediate, prosecute, and recommend disciplinary action for complaints alleging*

*misconduct by NYPD officers. See NYC Charter § 440(c)(1). The agency's jurisdiction includes excessive and unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, and use of offensive language. To further this mission, CCRB issues monthly, biannual, and special statistical and qualitative reports analyzing trends and recurring issues arising from the many thousands of civilian complaints it receives each year.*